

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 28, 2006

President George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

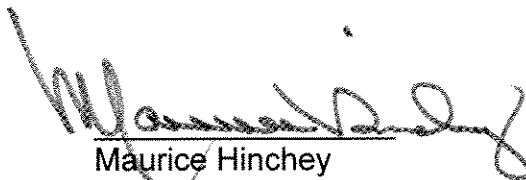
We write to strongly and earnestly implore you to use your authority to call for a cease-fire in the Israeli-Lebanese war. We are fully aware of the difficulty of asking Hezbollah and Israel to stand down unilaterally. But the escalating slaughter of innocents should be halted as quickly as possible. In Lebanon, more than 600 persons, mostly civilians and including women and children, have been killed. In Israel, more than 50 people, mostly civilians, have been killed. There is carnage in the Gaza region, where hundreds more have been injured. Billions of dollars of damage to infrastructure in Lebanon and Israel mount daily. Popular reaction across that region already is turning anti-American and threatens to yield more terrorism long term.

We share the view that the region needs a lasting peace. We also believe this admirable goal will not be achieved unless immediate and meaningful steps are taken to secure a cease fire among all parties to this blood-letting.

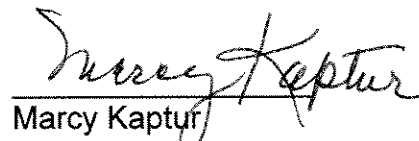
It is our considered opinion that only sustained action by the United States to rekindle the type of negotiations that resulted in successful long-term resolutions between Israel and Egypt and Jordan is necessary. Where back channels of communication are necessary, they should be reinvigorated.

Mr. President, we want to work with you to bring peace to this troubled region, to assure a watching world that resolution of this conflict is achievable and that our country will be a constructive part of that process.


Sincerely,





Maurice Hinchey
Member of Congress




Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress


Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

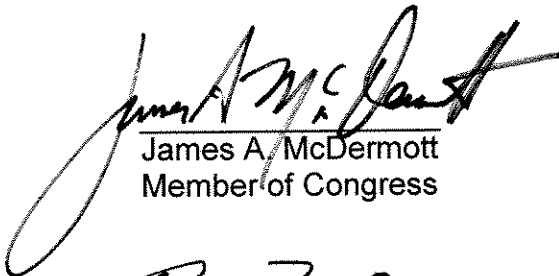

James P. Moran
Member of Congress

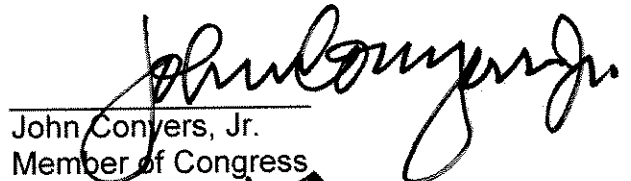

Neil Abercrombie
Member of Congress



Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress



Diane E. Watson
Member of Congress



Nick Rahall
Member of Congress



James A. McDermott
Member of Congress

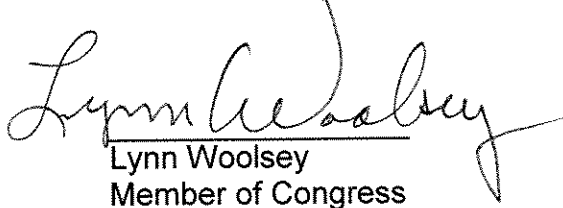

John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



Brian Baird
Member of Congress

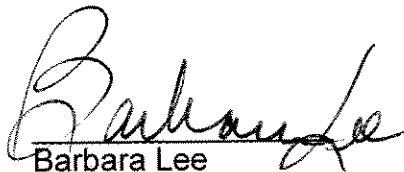

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress


Maxine Waters
Member of Congress


Carolyn C. Kilpatrick
Member of Congress


Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress


Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress


Barbara Lee
Member of Congress


Dale E. Kildee
Member of Congress